

Touch Money Gang Members Sentenced to Prison

Other defendants facing prison for drug, weapons, home invasion, robbery, and sexual assault charges.

Three members of the Touch Money Gang (TMG) received prison sentences Friday related to charges in a 91-count indictment against 13 gang members in September 2015 that included murder, robbery, conspiracy and weapons charges. Deputy Attorneys General John Downs, Periann Doko, and Dan McBride prosecuted the cases.

- Kadir McCoy, 19, of Wilmington will spend 39 years in prison after being sentenced in Superior Court. McCoy pled guilty in March to 2 counts each of Murder Second Degree, Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony, Conspiracy First Degree, plus 1 count of Robbery First Degree and 1 count of Illegal Gang Participation. A Superior Court judge sentenced McCoy to 39 years in prison, followed by 9 months of either home confinement or work release then 2 years of probation.
- Aquantay Garner, 21, of Newark, pled guilty in May 2017 to Illegal Gang Participation, Assault Second Degree, Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony, and Reckless Endangering First Degree. Garner was sentenced by a Superior Court judge to 3 years in prison, followed by 6 months of either home confinement or work release, then 2 years of probation.
- Jaymere White, 19, of Wilmington pled guilty in May 2017 to Illegal Gang Participation, Assault First Degree, Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony, and Robbery Second Degree. A Superior Court judge sentenced White to 5 years in prison, followed by 6 months of either home confinement or work release,

then 2 years of probation.

A Newark man with repeated prior convictions for felony drug and weapons offenses will spend 50 years in prison after being sentenced as a habitual offender for a new set of felony drug and weapons charges. In April, a Superior Court jury convicted Deshawn Chase, 28, of Drug Dealing, 2 counts of Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony, Possession of a Firearm by a Person Prohibited, Possession of Ammunition by a Person Prohibited, Carrying a Concealed Deadly Weapon, Drug Possession, and Possession of a Weapon in a Safe School Zone. In September 2016, Chase was caught dealing drugs with a loaded handgun near Stubbs Elementary School in Wilmington as school was letting out for the day. A judge sentenced Chase, barred from having a gun because of previous weapons and drug convictions, to 50 years in prison, followed by 6 months of either home confinement or work release, then 3 years of probation. Deputy Attorneys General John Taylor and Monil Amin prosecuted the case.

Deputy Attorney General Barzilai Axelrod secured a prison sentence for a Middletown man for his role in a home invasion and shooting. In January 2016, Dashawn Waters, 26, and two accomplices, entered an occupied home on Revelle Street in New Castle at night. Once inside, they brandished a firearm, fired shots, and one of the rounds injured a dog but no people were injured. In April 2017, Waters pled guilty to Home Invasion, 2 counts of Reckless Endangering First Degree, Attempted Robbery Second Degree, Aggravated Menacing, Cruelty to Animals, and Conspiracy Second Degree. A Superior Court judge sentenced Waters to 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ years in prison, followed by 6 months of either home confinement or work release, then 18 months of probation. One of the accomplices, Rusty Markum, 20, of Middletown, was sentenced in July to 10 years in prison for his involvement. DOJ social worker Kristen Fluharty-Emory assisted with the case.

Deputy Attorneys General Jenna Milecki and Amanda DiLiberto

secured a prison sentence for Micah Smith, 41, of Dover, for sexually abusing a child. Smith, who repeatedly abused a young child who was in his care, was convicted by a jury in May of Continuous Sexual Abuse of a Child, Sexual Abuse of a Child by a Person in a Position of Trust, Authority or Supervision Second Degree, and 3 counts of Unlawful Sexual Contact First Degree. A Superior Court judge sentenced Smith to 10 years in prison, followed by 3 years of home confinement then 3 years of GPS monitored probation. Smith must also register as a Tier 3 sex offender. DOJ social worker Claudia Melton assisted with the case.

A 27-year-old Dover man will spend 10 years in prison after pleading guilty to a weapons charge. Deputy Attorney General Lindsay Taylor secured the plea and sentence for Gregory Smith. Acting on a tip in August 2016, Dover Police approached Smith as he and another man stood in the first block of South New Street in Dover. After taking Smith into custody, officers found a loaded .22 caliber handgun in his pocket. Smith, prohibited from having a gun due to previous felony convictions on weapons, assault, and aggravated menacing charges, pled guilty in Superior Court to Possession of a Firearm by a Person Prohibited. A judge sentenced Smith to 10 years in prison, followed by 18 months of probation.